Web Site - Museum of Retro Computing

Presentation:

1) Great idea to have this discussion

2) Good idea to discuss accessibility & usability

3) What are the problems today
   a) Frustrating & unreliable access
   b) Takes too long
   c) Costs too much

4) Accessibility, Conveniences, Levels of use, & Costs - all Related. -

   Criteria:
   Satisfy Users Needs
   Provide Access at Reasonable Cost - Most Economically
   Accessibility improves process & results of research

5) Electronic Archives will be distributed w/ lots of players
   Need to develop access systems that span custodial arrangements

6) Don't reinvent the wheel. - Use & build on access systems that already exist. -
   RLIN
   EAD
   Dublin Core

Link archives to other cultural resources

Categories:

1) Unique i.d.
2) Terms & Conditions
3) Structural
4) Contextual
5) Content
6) Use

10) Distribute Software w/ Objects
   a) Use to open, read, display
   b) Intellectual resource in its own right

11) Provide individuals & organizations w/ the means to make archiving easy

12) Develop Policies for Access & Use
   a) Minimize restrictions / Get permission in advance
   b) Be consistent
   c) Don't subvert the archival enterprise to what is commercially viable
   d) - Archiving w/ access restrictions maybe preferable to destruction

Trusted 3rd Party

13) Educate users to be discriminating consumers of archival materials + critical readers of electronic evidence.

Opp: Public Interest - Film - Be Ready w/ Answers

7) Analyze & try to understand users needs:
   a) Users are not just historians:
      1) family / personal history
      2) rights & obligations
      3) information w a critical impact on people's lives
      4) accountability

   b) Study:
      Why do users seek sources?
      How do they discover things?
      are they satisfied?
      What delivery mechanisms do they prefer?
      How do they use & interpret what they find?

Usability:

8) Most digital information is not self-documenting
   Need:
      Contextual Information (who, why, when, etc)
      Relationship to provenance
      Relationship to other sources - Paper + electronic

9) Supply descriptive info in form of metadata: